

Hartford Elementary News

"Morning with Moms"



May Events:

- Thursday, May 2 - 2nd grade field trip
- Friday, May 3 - Grandparents Afternoon 1:00 - 3:30 (JK in the AM)
- Monday, May 6 - 2nd grade transition visit to Humboldt
- Tuesday, May 7 - All students take the City of Hartford Tour
- Wednesday, May 8 - Track & Field Day/Retirement Parties 4-6 @ HS
- Friday, May 10 - 1st Grade Field Trip
- Monday, May 13 - Special Olympic Torch Run through Hartford 10:30 am
- Tuesday, May 14 - Kindergarten Field Trip/ Bookmobile Pick Up Only
- Wednesday, May 15 - JK Field Trip
- Friday, May 17 - Last Day for Students 1:30 Dismissal Time
- Thursday, May 17 - Student Awards - Schedule in article; Trojan Buck Store

THE APRIL BIRTHDAY BASH

The April Birthday Bash was held on Thursday, April 4th. Mrs. Tyler read the book, Happy Birthday to You! by Dr. Seuss. Each child received a pencil, a birthday card, a Trojan Buck, and a fruit snack. Happy birthday to all the April birthdays!



First Grade April Birthdays

Back Row: Marcus (4-26), Colin (4-26), Hayden (4-5), Fisher (4-20), and Wyatt (4-4)

Front Row: Hillary (4-5), Macee (4-3), and Elizabeth (4-12)



Kindergarten April Birthdays

Jacob (4-6), Cody (4-13), and Adisyn (4-18)



Second Grade April Birthdays

Madison (4-17), Rachel (4-19), Caden (4-13), Ashton (4-15), and Jaquelynn (4-7)

TYLER TUESDAY



Tuesday, May 7th

For all May Birthdays!

Call Pam @ 528-3215 to register!

Bike Rodeo

Our Bike Rodeo was held on a perfectly sunny day on Saturday, April 27th. We had a large turn out and gave away 10 bikes, numerous helmets, t-shirts, and more! A special thanks to Sam Jacobs for organizing and planning the event!





Nurse's Notes by Rachel Sehr, School Nurse

We are a society that has become very dependent on our iPads and iPhones, but summer is the perfect time to put those down and promote creative play amongst our kiddos. While it might be tempting to just plop your kids in front of the television or computer to get them out of your hair, there are many ways to keep them occupied that don't include the use of technology. Here are some ideas to kick off the summer.

Run through the sprinkler
Go camping
Camp in your living room
Stargaze
Catch lightning bugs
Rearrange the furniture
Have a game night
Go to the zoo
Go to a water park
Go to a museum
Puzzles
Pack a picnic
Start back-to school shopping early
Head to the lake
Work on home improvement projects
Start your own garden
Let the kids cook dinner
Decorate walkways with sidewalk chalk
Take a hike
Make a lemonade stand
Take a weekend road trip
Science experiments
Join a summer reading club
Listen to books on cd
Try new recipes
Bike trails
Go fishing
Jump rope
Make beaded jewelry
Make your own bubbles to blow
Build a Lego castle
Learn a new skill like juggling or cross stitch
Visit grandparents
Build a fort
Build a towers of cards
Make smores
Mini-golf

Put on a concert for friends/family
Put on a play or puppet show
Fly a kite
Visit a farmers' market
Have breakfast in bed
Play with clay
Brainteaser games
Build a fort/tree house
Have a paper airplane competition
Keep a sketch diary
Write a journal
Learn to skip stones
Take lessons together-cooking, tennis
Play crochet or other lawn games
Create a treasure hunt
Nature scavenger hunt
Build a bird feeder
See a play
Make your own instruments
Play charades
Break out the family movies
Go to a flea market or garage sale
Have a garage sale
Organize the house/garage
Climb trees
Get a book of riddles
Prepare freezer meals
Bake
Make your own pizza
Face paint
Festivals/carnivals
Go to a car show
Participate in outdoor sports
Put together a scrapbook
Learn a magic trick
Commit random acts of kindness
Ride go carts

***All medications stored at school need to be picked up within one week of the close of the school year. Any medication not collected by May 24, 2013, will be disposed of. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse at Rachel.Sehr@k12.sd.us or at 528-3215, Ext. 1333. ***

PTA NEWS

Upcoming Events

- PTA meeting Tuesday, April 30th @ 7:00 pm at HS Library.
- \$300 was raised at the Pie Auction following the Hartford Elementary Concert! Thank you!
- We will need help providing food to the educators with a meal at the end of a really long day on May 17th!

Special Fundraising Projects for 2012-2013

1. Reduce school supply list by providing **ALL** notebooks and folders for the 2013-2014 school year.
2. Provide shin guards and soccer nets for the Humboldt and Hartford Elementary play grounds.

PTA annual membership is \$5.00. This year, members who activate their card will receive \$10.00 off a \$50.00 purchase at Office Max! Drop off your membership dues - along with a sheet of paper with your name, address, phone number, email address, and employer - at the school office or with your school's PTA representative.

Please feel free to email us

at: ptawestcentral@gmail.com for any suggestions or comments or visit our website at <http://facebook.com/groups/PTAWestCentral>. We would love to hear from you!

Changes @ Hartford Elementary

Mrs. Tyler leaving isn't the only big news around here. Here are some other personnel changes:

- Replacing Mrs. Tyler is Ms. Jennifer Munger. She is currently the principal at Sully Buttes (Agar-Blunt-Onida) School District by Pierre, SD.
- Sam Jacobs (teacher grade 2) is leaving us to be the K-8 Principal at Montrose. He will also be the athletic director there.
- Replacing Sam will be Ashleigh Johnson. Ms. Johnson comes to us from Huron and has been teaching there for the past three years.
- We will be adding a half time junior kindergarten teacher for an afternoon session. I will let you know when that person is hired.
- Michele Mriden will be replacing Mary Lowry, who is also retiring. Mary will still be working here part time as a Reading Recovery teacher.
- Connie Lueth is retiring and because of our Title I funding being reduced, she will not be replaced in our building.



Take 25 For Child Safety!



Minnehaha County Deputy Sheriff Tyrone Albers is our school Resource Officer for the West Central School District. As summer break is coming upon us, please take a moment to read the below letter from Sheriff Mike Milstead and go over the 25 tips provided for child safety. In addition, Officer Albers will be talking with the kindergartners in our district about child safety.

To the Citizens of Minnehaha County,

Today, we join the efforts of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Take 25 Program, to help insure the safety of your children. While we live in one of the safest places in America, South Dakota is not immune from horrific acts of child abduction and sexual exploitation. Also, according to the United States Department of Justice, in a one year period there were an estimated 800,000 children reported missing in the U.S., with an average of 2,200 children reported missing to law enforcement agencies daily. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children works to help find

missing children, prevent child abduction and sexual exploitation, and assist victims of child abduction and sexual exploitation, their families, and the professionals who serve them. Although NCEMC's domestic recovery rate for missing children has grown significantly over the years; there are still too many children who remain among the missing.

As a continuing effort to prevent the abduction and sexual exploitation of children, the Minnehaha County Sheriff's Office will recognize May 25th as National Missing Children's Day. This special day is a time to remember those children who remain missing and give hope to their families that one day they will be found.

As part of these efforts, we are encouraging parents to take the time to talk with their children about the importance of personal safety by using the resources provided through The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's Take 25 Program. This program aims to heighten awareness of children's personal safety issues. With a focus on prevention, the campaign encourages parents, guardians, and other role models to spend time talking to kids to teach them ways to be safer.

Please visit www.take25.org/ for information on how to take 25 with your children.

Thanks in advance for having taking this important step for the safety of your family.

Sheriff Mike Milstead

25 WAYS TO MAKE KIDS SAFER

AT HOME

Teach children their full name, address, and home telephone number. Make sure they know your full name.

Make sure children know how to reach you at work or on your cell phone.

Teach children how and when to use 911, and make sure they have a trusted adult to call if they're scared or have an emergency.

Instruct children to keep the doors locked and not to open doors to talk to anyone when they are home alone.

Choose babysitters with care. Once you have chosen the caregiver, drop in unexpectedly to see how your children are doing. Ask children about their experience and listen carefully to their responses.

GOING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Walk or drive the route to and from school with children, pointing out landmarks and safe places to go if they're being followed or need help.

Remind children to take a friend whenever they walk or bike to school and to stay with a group at the bus stop.

Caution children never to accept a ride from anyone unless you have told them it is okay to do so in each instance.

Use privacy settings on social networking sites to limit contact with unknown users, and make sure screennames don't reveal too much about children.

Encourage children to tell you if anything they encounter online makes them feel sad, scared, or confused.

Caution children not to post revealing information or inappropriate photos of themselves or their friends online.

Continued on next page...

OUT AND ABOUT

Take children on a walking tour of the neighborhood, and tell them whose homes they may visit without you.
Teach children to ask permission before leaving home.

Remind children not to walk or play alone outside.

Remind children it's okay to say no to anything that makes them feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused.

Teach children to tell you if anything or anyone makes them feel this way.

Teach children to never approach a vehicle, occupied or not, unless they are accompanied by a parent, guardian, or other trusted adult.

Practice "what-if" situations and ask children how they would respond. "What if you fell off your bike and you needed help? Who would you ask?"

Teach children to check in with you if there is a change of plans.

During family outings, establish a central, easy-to-locate spot to meet should you get separated.

Teach children how to locate help in public places. Identify people who they can ask for help, such as uniformed law enforcement, security guards, and store clerks with nametags.

Help children learn to recognize and avoid potential risks, so that they can deal with them if they happen.

Teach children that if anyone tries to grab them, they should make a scene and make every effort to get away by kicking, screaming, and resisting.

ON THE NET

Learn about the Internet. Visit www.NetSmartz.org for more information about Internet safety.

Place the family computer in a common area, rather than a child's bedroom. Monitor their time spent online and the websites they've visited, and establish rules for Internet use.

Know what other access children have to the Internet at school, libraries, or friends' homes.

Another successful year of Trojan Buck Store!

We would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to the West Central community and the staff at Hartford Elementary for allowing us to make the Trojan Buck Store what it is today! The donations have been incredible this year!! Those of us who have been volunteers with the store over the past few years have seen quite a change in the attitudes and motivations of our young readers. It has been our pleasure to see these children be so excited to earn and "save" their Trojan Bucks, and the satisfaction they get when they are "spending" them.

Again, Thank You for the continued support. We will see you next year!
Trojan Buck Store Volunteers



Field Trips



Thursday, May 2nd - 2nd Grade Field Trip

AM - Army National Guard/McDonald's

PM - Butterfly House/Outdoor Campus

Tuesday, March 7th - All students tour the City of Hartford

Friday, May 10th - 1st Grade Field Trip

Children's Museum in Brookings

Tuesday, May 14th - Kindergarten Field Trip

AM Sertoma Park

PM Great Plains Zoo

Wednesday, May 15th - Junior Kindergarten Field Trip

AM Butterfly House

Here are the numbers for JR for Heart.

KA - 317.24

KB - 697.25

KC - 506

KD - 887

TOTAL FOR K - 2407.50

1A - 902

1B - 303

1C - 420.05

1D - 854.95

TOTAL FOR 1ST - 2480

2A - 301

2B - 315

2C - 1057

2D - 526.14

TOTAL FOR 2ND - 2199.12

Total for K-2 \$7,086.64



Awards Ceremony

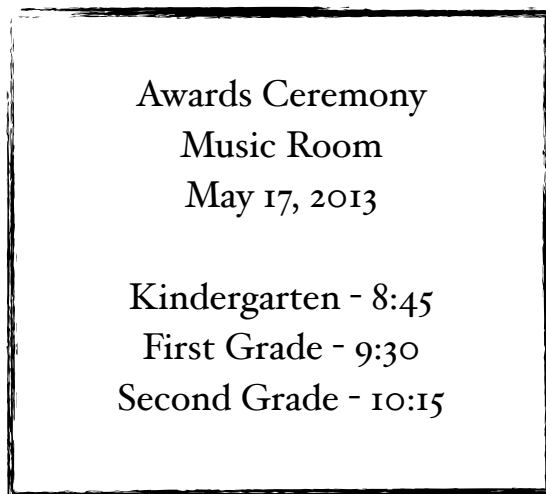
Music Room

May 17, 2013

Kindergarten - 8:45

First Grade - 9:30

Second Grade - 10:15





Pictures from the Chorus Concert!
What fun!



REFLECTIONS...BY MRS. TYLER, PRINCIPAL



Graduations and Goodbyes.

This May, my youngest daughter, Beth will graduate from college. She already has her job as a tax accountant at a firm in Omaha starting in July. After graduation I will get to help her look for her first apartment and wish her well as she goes off to her new life as an adult.

The catch with all of this, is that she graduates in Lincoln, Nebraska, on Saturday, May 18th. Her awards ceremony (a banquet) is on Friday, May 17th, which is now our last day of school. My last day of school with the kids. Ever. While I know that Beth would understand if I missed her awards, I've decided to go. With my role of curriculum director, I've missed moving her into her dorm every fall and being a part of that goodbye ritual. While her dad did a great job with the moving of her stuff, I'm sure the emotional warm and fuzzy wasn't what I wanted for her. I need to be a part of this goodbye/welcome to real life part of her life. I'll be leaving at noon on that last day.

So I'm hoping all of you will understand why I'm not giving all your kids their goodbye hugs and high fives as they walk out of this building this year. I will be doing that at their awards ceremony on that last Friday morning. I expect it will be quite emotional for me and I can already hear the kids, "Mrs. Tyler, why are you crying?" as I hug them all for this last time as their principal. Several students have already been asking me why I'm retiring, why I can't move to Humboldt with them, why I would want to do anything else but this for the rest of my life. I wish I could put it into words for them. For all of you.

In the words of my favorite author, Dr. Seuss:

Congratulations!
Today is your day.
You're off to Great Places!
You're off and away!
You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself
any direction you choose.
You're on your own. And you know what you know.
And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go.

While I'm not graduating, in a sense I am. There will be a new chapter in my book and a new path. At this writing, I don't know where the path will take me, but along that path will be the wonderful memories of my years here at West Central and all of the students, parents, and staff that have crossed my path. Have a joyous summer and give your new principal some "learning curve" leeway. She will have her own path with new and exciting things for your kids...and that's how it should be.

Don't be dismayed at goodbyes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again, after moments or lifetime, is certain for those who are friends. - Richard Bach

Avoid Crying, “Bully” by Love & Logic

We all know the story of that boy who cried, "Wolf!"

In the end, there really was a problem and he didn't get the help he needed.

With so much emphasis on bullying these days, do we run the same risk?

If kids learn to take slight offenses too seriously or rely on authority figures to solve every small conflict, could that make things worse?

Of course, adults should step in when there is **real danger**, but there's another important piece: Teaching kids to be more-resilient, less-enticing targets. This can help adults separate the serious from the not-so-serious.

We encourage parents and teachers to empower kids - NOT to overreact to teasing and less-harmful testing that often occurs in peer relationships. Otherwise, like the boy who cried, "Wolf," real bullying may not get noticed and kids may not get help when they actually need it.

Adults should get involved when there is **real harm or the threat of real harm**. But all kids will encounter some mean people in life and will benefit from learning to handle it while they're young.

Role-playing responses can help kids handle name-calling and teasing:

Some kids put their hands in their pockets, smile, and say, "Hmm, I hadn't noticed that before. Thanks for letting me know."

Some kids say, "Oh, that reminds me... " and then move away like they just remembered something important.

Some kids make sure they are near adults when mean kids are on the prowl.

Prepared kids make less viable targets.

Let's all do our part, from modeling kindness, to providing good supervision and intervention when kids need help, to teaching kids how to get along and handle the small stuff.

Find more solutions to help kids learn how to deal with the issues of teasing and bullying in Sally Ogden's book, "Words Will Never Hurt Me."

Thanks for reading! Our goal is to help as many families as possible.

Track & Field Afternoon Wednesday, May 8th Students walk to the HS track @ 12:30 p.m. Parents welcome!



Box Tops for Education

Just clip, put in a baggie and return to school! There is also a drop box at Sunshine.



Save Five for Schools

Just wash these milk and juice lids and send to school in a baggie (or Sunshine). Watch for store specials! We need the WHOLE lid!



Labels for Education

This is not just Campbell's Soup Labels anymore! There are many products that qualify. Check it out at labelsforeducation.com You can send labels to school with your child or drop in box @ Sunshine.

Cell Phones/Ink Cartridges

You can drop off old cell phones or ink cartridges and we can recycle and get money back. There is a box inside our front door.